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Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)

Indonesia*: Draft resolution

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/107 of 20 December 1995 and 52/193 and 52/194 of 18 December 1997 related to the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, to the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty and to the role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty, and all its other relevant resolutions relating to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

Recalling also the declarations and programmes of action of the United Nations major conferences and summits in the 1990s as they relate to poverty eradication,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the report of the United Nations Development Programme on overcoming human poverty,

Expressing its concern that the number of people living in poverty is still increasing, especially in developing countries, and that a large majority of them are women and children,

Recognizing that in the process of globalization, the marginalization of many developing countries and of disadvantaged groups of people have created constraints to the efforts to eradicate poverty,

Expressing also its concern that financial and economic turmoil has aggravated the existing poverty and put a large number of people back to conditions of poverty in developing countries,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.
[1] A/53/329

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Noting the decisions, measures and activities undertaken to eradicate poverty by countries and by organizations, agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system, including the World Bank, as well as by all sectors of societies within the framework of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,

1. *Reiterates* that the main objective of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty is to achieve the goal of eradicating absolute poverty and reducing overall poverty substantially in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation;

2. *Calls for* strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments agreed upon at the United Nations major conferences and summits organized since 1990 as they relate to poverty eradication, with a view to achieving the objectives of the Decade as early as possible;

3. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity to meet the basic needs of all, and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role of economic growth with equity in the eradication of poverty;

4. *Recognizes* that the process of globalization brings with it new challenges, particularly for the developing countries and the least developed among them in their efforts to eradicate poverty;

5. *Calls for* concrete and concerted actions by the international community to create an enabling economic environment to assist developing countries to combat the negative impacts of globalization and marginalization and to reactivate the development process;

6. *Welcomes* the formulation and implementation of national plans and strategies for poverty eradication, including setting time-bound goals and targets for the substantial reduction of overall poverty and the eradication of absolute poverty, based on specific national development strategies, and encourages their continuous implementation, as well as the exchanges of experiences gained in this regard;

7. *Urges* the developed countries that have not yet done so to achieve as soon as possible the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of the gross national product for the least developed countries;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, including multilateral financial institutions, to implement fully and effectively all initiatives taken regarding debt relief for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and thus support their efforts to eradicate poverty;

9. *Recognizes* the role of microcredit as an essential anti-poverty tool, resulting in the generation of productive self-employment and empowerment, especially of women, by providing access to small amounts of capital, encourages Governments to adopt policies that support the development of microcredit institutions and their capacities and calls on the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system as well as the World Bank and other international financial institutions to support and incorporate, as appropriate, microcredit and related services in their programmes for the eradication of poverty;

10. *Welcomes* the initiative taken by the Economic and Social Council to strengthen coordination for the integrated implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the 1990s, where poverty eradication had been a cross-cutting theme;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made within the United Nations system to enhance inter-agency coordination among relevant organizations, funds and programmes, and the Bretton Woods institutions, for the integrated follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the adoption of the Statement of Commitment on Coordination for Action to Eradicate Poverty by the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and encourages these agencies to take more effective action in support of Member States in their efforts to achieve the objectives of the Decade;

12. *Reiterates* its call to all donors to give high priority to the eradication of poverty in their development assistance programmes, on both bilateral and multilateral bases, and invites the relevant funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to support developing countries, particularly African countries and the least developed countries, in their efforts to achieve the overall goal of eradicating poverty, by supporting national efforts to formulate, coordinate, implement, monitor and assess integrated poverty strategies;

13. *Decides* that the themes for the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty for 1999 and 2000 shall be "Globalization and poverty eradication" and "Women's role in poverty eradication", respectively;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fourth session on the progress made in the implementation of measures, recommendations and activities related to the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, including recommendations for possible actions and initiatives towards the new millennium;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session an item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)".